



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*Jon H. Larson, Ph.D.*

TO: Members, OCC Board of Trustees

FROM: Jon H. Larson, Ph.D.  
President

SUBJECT: Items of Interest for the June 25, 2012, Board Meeting

DATE: June 20, 2012

## Ocean County College Security

On January 17, 2012, the Governor signed a new State law, P.L. 2011, c. 214, which directs each New Jersey institution of higher education to develop, adopt, and coordinate an emergency operations plan to ensure the continuity of essential functions under any and all circumstances. In concert with the law, over the past two years, the New Jersey Presidents' Council's Campus Safety and Security Committee deployed a self-inspection and peer review survey that includes those aspects of campus security addressed in the Governor's Campus Security Task Force of 2007, the Federal Clery Act, and the Federal Higher Education Authorization Act.

In order to be in compliance with the campus security law, the Board of Trustees must formally adopt the College's Emergency Operations Plan. Therefore, a recommendation is being made at Monday's meeting to do so. The Ocean County College Emergency Operations Plan, previously referred to as the College's Emergency Procedures Manual, was originally developed in November 2003 and has been updated in 2004, 2008, 2010, and during the last several months.

Also required by the Campus Safety and Security Committee is certification that the College has completed its annual self-assessment survey. OCC's self-assessment survey was completed on February 24, 2012.

At Monday's meeting, Dr. Jim McGinty, Executive Vice President, Operations, and Mr. Robert Kumpf, Director of Security, will provide additional details regarding the

College's compliance with the new law. He will also update you on the progress being made by the Security Department on a number of issues:

- ♦ The use of identification cards by employees on campus
- ♦ The addition of wireless cameras on campus
- ♦ The increase in the number of automated external defibrillators on campus
- ♦ Local law enforcement drills on campus
- ♦ Weapons training and certification for security officers

### Veterans' Educational Support

On April 27, 2012, President Barack Obama signed Executive Order 13607, *Establishing Principles of Excellence for Educational Institutions Serving Service Members, Veterans, Spouses, and Other Family Members*. The purpose of this legislation is to ensure that educational benefits programs for veterans are providing the information, support, and protections they deserve. These principles were developed to strengthen oversight, enforcement, and accountability of educational programs so veterans can make informed decisions concerning their well-earned educational benefits.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs strongly encouraged institutions to commit to the Principles of Excellence as a way of publicly recognizing the importance of transparency as well as providing students with appropriate information. On June 19<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Norma Betz, Director of Financial Aid, whose responsibilities include veterans' educational benefits, contacted the Veterans Affairs Department confirming Ocean County College's compliance with the Executive Order's Principles of Excellence. She also informed the Department that OCC's implementation actions will be posted on the College website, as requested.

### Recognition of Ocean County College Storm Water Basins

Mr. Bob Martin, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, joined Ocean County Freeholders on Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, to dedicate three state-of-the art storm drains that have been installed by the Gateway Building. These innovative storm drains, which will filter runoff water from the campus before it reaches the Barnegat Bay, will play a major role in the bay's restoration program.

This project was funded by the State Environmental Infrastructure Trust Fund through the Department of Environmental Protection as part of the Governor's ten-point plan for the improvement and protection of the Barnegat Bay, which was launched in December 2010.

### Top 100 Associate Degree Producers

Ocean County College has been named for the second year by *Community College Week* in its listing of the Top 100 Associate Degree Producers in the nation. *Community College Week* is a national publication covering community, technical, and junior colleges since

1988. The Top 100 listing includes institutions that have awarded the largest number of associate degrees.

In 2009-2010, Ocean County College placed 87<sup>th</sup>; the new data shows Ocean County College ranked at 84<sup>th</sup>, having conferred 1,566 degrees in 2010-2011. This rank is noteworthy in that Ocean County College is competing with many community colleges within the country that have much higher enrollments but do not award as many degrees.

The data for this analysis were collected by the National Center for Education Statistics through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Set (IPEDS). Included in the analysis are institutions within the nation that are regionally accredited by agencies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

### E-Learning Opportunities

Next month, Ms. Maysa Hayward, Dean of E-Learning and Adjunct Faculty, will be traveling to Egypt on behalf of Ocean County College. She will present a paper entitled *The E-Learning Academic Challenges: From Creation to Implementation* at the Egyptian e-Learning University (EELU) Conference, which is scheduled to be held in Cairo from July 9<sup>th</sup> through July 12<sup>th</sup>. Her presentation will focus on how a responsible faculty, well prepared students, and high quality courses, the core formula for a successful E-Learning experience, can be developed and improved while ensuring rigorous academic excellence standards.

In addition to Dean Hayward's participation in this conference, she has scheduled meetings with officials at several Egyptian universities and colleges in an effort to develop partnerships to deliver courses and degree programs through our E-learning Program. She will also explore the interest of these institutions for OCC to provide faculty professional development opportunities for their employees. The institutions Dr. Hayward will visit include:

- ♦ Open University of Cairo
- ♦ Egyptian E-learning University
- ♦ Cairo University
- ♦ Abram Canadian University

### Ocean County College Foundation Scholarship Celebration

The Ocean County College Foundation 2012 Scholarship Celebration will take place on Saturday, September 8, at 6:00 p.m. This year Gary and Amy Lotano will be honored as the 2012 Humanitarians of the Year. The event co-chairs are Mr. Harvey York and Ms. Noelle Lotano.

Invitations will be mailed to you in the near future, and we look forward to your attendance at the Celebration. Proceeds from the event will benefit the OCC

Foundation's endowment, which is devoted to assisting students with a college education. This year's major sponsor is Investors Bank.

#### **Ocean County College Promotional Video**

For the past several years, a video has been played at Commencement for the families and friends of our graduates. Because the members of the platform party have not had the opportunity to view the video, a portion of it will be shared with you at Monday's meeting.

Developed by Mr. Lee Kobus, Executive Director of Instructional Technology, Mr. Ralph Bertini, Television Production Director, and several students who volunteered their services, the video is extremely well made and captures the essence of Ocean County College. As part of our new marketing initiative, the video will be widely disseminated. It will be televised on the College's station, will be used as a recruitment tool, and will be available for viewing on the College website.

Ms. Jan Kirsten, Director of College Relations, will introduce the video at Monday's meeting and provide additional information of the ways in which it will be utilized.